Maoist of Nepal intruding bordering area of Uttarakhand

†1313. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maoist of Nepal are intruding in the bordering areas of Uttarakhand and they have also damaged Indian property there;

(b) whether Government is taking any concrete steps for its border security to curb such incidents in future; and

(c) whether Government has made contact with Government of Nepal officially in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V RADHIKA SELVI): (a) India-Nepal have open border and visa free regime. There are no restrictions on the movement of both nationals across the border. There are no reports confirming any intrusion of Maoist of Nepal in the bordering areas of Uttarakhand and damage to Indian property. However, because of internal situation in Nepal, some significant activities of Maoist have been reported in areas of Nepal bordering India.

(b) Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) which is the Border Guarding Force on the India-Nepal border maintains a constant vigil to check any hostile activity. SSB has also been asked to work in close coordination with the State Governments having border with Nepal to check the entry of undesirable elements into India. Government of India is also keeping a close watch on overall situation.

(c) India and Nepal have various bilateral mechanisms to address issues of mutual security concern including entry of undesirable elements into each others territory.

Steps to examine various natural calamities in Kerala

1314. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any step during the last one year to examine various natural calamities in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details including the reasons identified and loss due to land slides, land slip coastal erosion and flood that have accrued in various districts during last one year;

(c) the steps taken to provide assistance to the State so as to recover from calamities during the last one year; and

(d) the details of short term steps adopted to control above natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (d) As per the information furnished by the Government of Kerala, the Geological Survey of India and the Centre for Earth Science Studies have been monitoring the various natural calamities in the State. During the last one year, the Geological Survey of India has studied 42 landslides / debris flow / land slump incidents in Idukki, Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikkode, Wayanad and Kannur Districts of Kerala and has assessed the causative factors besides suggesting mitigative, remedial and control & corrective measures

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

for implementation by the local authorities. In addition, the Geological Survey of India has, in its annual programmes for 2006-07 and 2007-08 included detailed site-specific mesozonation studies of landslide prone areas in Erattupetta (Kurisumala) and Munnar in Idukki district and also preparation of landslide inventory of the State as a whole. A few more places like Amboori area in Thiruvanathapuram district and in Wayanadu, Kannur and Kozhikode districts have been identified for the Feasibility Study Programme. Rapid survey of the landslide sites were conducted during June-July-August 2007 in the aforesaid districts.

Centre for Earth Science Studies (CESS), has taken up research programmes on various hazards on long term basis and they have prepared landslide and hazard zonation maps of Kollam District and some areas of Kozhikode, Kottayam and Idukki districts on coastal erosion.CESS has an ongoing programme to prepare shoreline management plans for Alleppey and Ernakulam districts. Multi-institutional studies have been conducted for small stretches of the coast in Trivandrum district and action plan is implemented through the Water Resources Department with the support of Ministry of Earth Science. Reconnaissance studies were conducted by IIT Chennai on the extent of and remedial measures against coastal erosion in the State and steps are already taken to implement its suggestions.

As per information received from the State Government, during the year 2007-08 all the 14 districts were affected due to heavy rains, floods and landslides which resulted in loss of 262 human lives, death of 2813 cattle heads, damage to 58804 houses and crops over an area of 0.38 lakh hectares.

As per the existing scheme for financing the relief expenditure, the State Government concerned is required to undertake immediate relief operations out of the corpus of Calamity Relief Fund, which is contributed by the Government of India and the State Government in the ratio of 3:1. Additional financial assistance is also provided to the affected States in the wake of calamities of severe nature from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), after following the laid down procedure.

During 2007-08, an amount of Rs. 94.26 crore has been allocated in the CRF of Kerala consisting of Rs.70.70 crore as Central contribution and Rs.23.56 crore as State contribution. The Government of India have released the entire Central share of Rs.70.70 crore during current financial year. In addition, an amount of Rs.50.814 crore has also been released from NCCF for undertaking relief operations in the areas affected by floods/landslides during 2007

Disaster Management Department in the State has been constantly interacting with the district Collectors and local authorities for taking corrective and control steps as suggested by the Geological Survey of India & Centre for Earth Science Studies, including awareness programme for the Public.

The Ministry of Water Resources is in the process of setting up a National Flood Management Commission (NFMC) to coordinate and oversee all the activities related to flood management at national level and to prepare comprehensive master plans for the chronically flood affected basins of Ganga, Brahamputra, Indus, Mahanadi, Godawari etc. and also to help and guide the States in implementation of flood management and erosion control works wherever required.